

FISCAL NOTE
HB 447 - SB 1773

April 7, 2005

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires the Department of Children's Services to establish an alternative response child protective services demonstration program for children at risk of maltreatment and to determine the appropriate level of intervention. The program requires the following:

1. No later than January 1, 2006, at least three but no more than five areas of the state shall be selected for the demonstration program; no later than January 1, 2007, the program shall be expanded to ten areas of the state; and no later than January 1, 2009, the program shall be implemented statewide.
2. Department of Children's Services shall report to the Governor and specified committees of the General Assembly of the progress toward implementation of the program by October 1, 2005.
3. No later than October 1, 2007, the Department of Children's Services shall submit a report, including an appropriate comparison group not part of the demonstration project, on the first year of the demonstration program, to the Governor, the Senate General Welfare Committee, House Committee on Children and Family Affairs and the Select Committee on Children and Youth.
4. No later than October 1, 2008, the department shall submit a final report of the independent evaluation of the demonstration program and beginning December 1, 2009 and each year thereafter, an annual report shall be submitted.
5. Each county in the alternative response program shall form a local advisory board to recommend ways and assist with the development of community resources.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures – Exceeds \$500,000

Assumptions:

- Implementation of the alternative response child protective services program will be accomplished through the existing staff and resources of the Department of Children's Services.
- Independent evaluation of the program implementation over a three-year period will result in an increase in state expenditures exceeding \$500,000.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James W. White, Executive Director